

HOUSE No. 824

By Mr. Linsky of Natick, petition of David Paul Linsky and others relative to name changes by persons registered as sex offenders. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

David Paul Linsky	Kathi-Anne Reinstein
Tom Sannicandro	James B. Eldridge
Susan C. Fargo	Matthew C. Patrick
Michael E. Festa	James R. Miceli
Karen E. Spilka	Thomas J. O'Brien

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT REGULATING SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION NAME CHANGES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Chapter 6 of the General Laws, as appearing in
2 the 2002 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after
3 section 178E the following section:-
4 Section 178E½ (a) A sex offender who is required to register
5 pursuant to sections 178C to 178P, inclusive, and has registered
6 with the board, shall notify the board within 7 days after a change
7 of name. A sex offender who knowingly violates this provision
8 shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than 1 year in the
9 house of correction or by imprisonment in the state prison for not
10 more than 5 years, or by a fine of not more than \$1,000, or by
11 both such fine and imprisonment. A violation of this subsection
12 may be prosecuted in the Superior Court in the county or the Dis-
13 trict Court in the judicial district: wherein the sex offender cur-
14 rently resides, works or attends an institution of higher learning or
15 other educational institution in the commonwealth, or wherein the

16 sex offender is currently registered to work, reside or attend an
17 institution of higher learning or other educational institution in the
18 commonwealth, based on the sex offender's latest registration
19 data.

20 (b) The board, upon receipt of the sex offender's name change
21 notification, shall promptly transmit notice of the sex offender's
22 name registration change to: the police departments in the munici-
23 palities in the commonwealth wherein the sex offender is cur-
24 rently registered to reside, work or attend an institution of higher
25 learning or other educational institution; the police departments in
26 the municipalities in the commonwealth wherein the sex offender,
27 as currently registered with the board, intends to reside, work, or
28 plans to attend an institution of higher learning; and the police
29 departments in the municipalities in the commonwealth wherein a
30 sex offense was committed and to the Federal Bureau of Investi-
31 gation.

32 (c) Except as required under subsection (b), the board may
33 make notification of a sex offender's name change to govern-
34 mental departments, agencies, institutions and municipal police
35 departments or the public, as authorized under Chapter 6, Section
36 178K to receive registration information. A municipal police
37 department notified by the board of a sex offender's name change
38 pursuant to subsection (b), may make notification of such name
39 change to individuals, organizations, governmental departments,
40 agencies and institutions and municipal police departments or the
41 public, as authorized under Chapter 6, Section 178K to receive
42 registration information.

1 SECTION 2. Section 178E of Chapter 6 of the General Laws,
2 as amended by sections 6-9 of chapter 140 of the acts of 2003, is
3 hereby amended as follows:—

4 (1) Subsection (a) is amended by inserting, after the words
5 "intended change of address within the commonwealth or another
6 state", the words: "and to give notice of change of name";

7 (2) Subsection (b) is amended by inserting, after the words
8 "intended change of address within the commonwealth or another
9 state", the words: "and to give notice of change of name";

10 (3) Subsection (c) is amended by inserting, after the words
11 “intended change of address within the commonwealth or another
12 state”, the words: “and to give notice of change of name”.